

# Delete child from firebase [duplicate]

Asked 6 years, 3 months ago Modified 5 years, 1 month ago Viewed 27k times

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[How to remove child nodes in firebase android?](#) (4 answers)

Closed 6 years ago.

I use following code to add a child and set a value to it in FireBase.

```
String ref =  
Constants.Client+"/"+Constants.firebaseProjects+"/"+Constants.ProjectName+"/xyz";  
final DatabaseReference ref =  
FirebaseDatabase.getInstance().getReference(FirebaseRefer);  
ref.child("mockChild").push().setValue("");
```

What can I do to delete the "mockChild" ?

[android](#) [firebase](#)

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edited Sep 27, 2017 at 12:41

asked Sep 27, 2017 at 12:40



[Sreekanth Karumanaghat](#)

3,383 6 44 73

## 2 Answers

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14

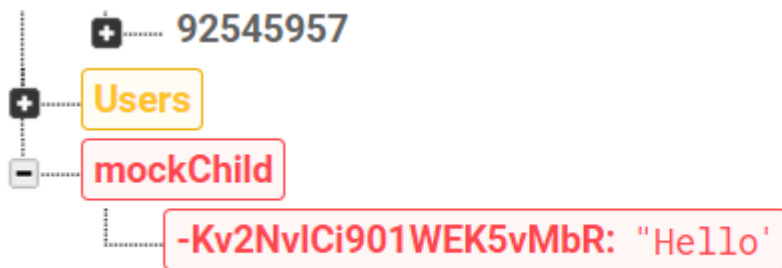


```
ref.child("mockChild").removeValue();
```

Code to add child - `ref.child("mockChild").push().setValue("Hello");`

```
└─ mockChild  
   └─ -Kv2NvICi901WEK5vMbR: "Hello"
```

Code to remove child - `ref.child("mockChild").removeValue();`



Lets take an example in a user db:

```
ref.child("Users").child("User1").setValue("User 1");
ref.child("Users").child("User2").setValue("User 2");
ref.child("Users").child("User3").setValue("User 3");
```

Now if you want to remove a specific user from the database you have to use this code:

```
ref.child("Users").child("User2").removeValue();
```

Since firebase is a key value database, it will remove the value from User2 and also the key since the key can't be on it's own. This will remove the entire reference to User2 from your database.

Share Improve this answer Follow edited Nov 17, 2018 at 11:09

answered Sep 27, 2017 at 12:41



Martin Lund

1,159 9 17

Will it not just remove the value in this case the "", I want to delete the entire child.

– Sreekanth Karumanaghat Sep 27, 2017 at 12:42

It should remove the value, and when the value is removed, the key will be removed with it :)

– Martin Lund Sep 27, 2017 at 12:43

Are you sure that when value is removed the key will be removed? Because internally what the method does is that it will set a null object to the value. – Sreekanth Karumanaghat Sep 27, 2017 at 12:45

Edited my answer, so you can see what happens, it removes the key if value has been removed

– Martin Lund Sep 27, 2017 at 12:54

- 1 Random value, since nothing is specified, if you want to specify something you need to add another child. `ref.child("mockChild").child("Key name here").setValue("The value");` – Martin Lund Sep 27, 2017 at 12:57



To solve this, please use the following code:

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```
String key = ref.child("mockChild").push().getKey();
ref.child("mockChild").child(key).setValue("yourValue");
ref.child("mockChild").child(key).removeValue(); // This is how you remove it
```



or you can use:



```
ref.child("mockChild").child(key).setValue(null);
```

It's also accepted and means that when you give Firebase a null value for a property/path, you indicate that you want to property or path to be deleted.

If you want to remove the entire child, then just use:

```
ref.child("mockChild").removeValue();
```

Note, it will remove everything that `mockChild` contains.

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edited Sep 27, 2017 at 12:45

answered Sep 27, 2017 at 12:43



Alex Mamo

133k 17 163 195

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I dont want to change the value in the child, I want to remove the child it self.

– Sreekanth Karumanaghat Sep 27, 2017 at 12:45

- 
- 1 I don't change the value. I just showed you how to set a value using `setValue()` method and then how to remove the same value using `removeValue()` method. Does it work? You only need to use `removeValue()` directly o the reference. – Alex Mamo 🌟 Sep 27, 2017 at 12:47 ✎

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Please see also my updated answer. – Alex Mamo 🌟 Sep 27, 2017 at 12:48

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